

CLAIMS

1. A method for notifying a first user that a second user has returned to a call, the method comprising:
 - 5 suspending a call on a communication path between a first user and a second user by the second user;
 - monitoring the communication path to determine when the second user has activity on the communication path;
 - and
 - 10 notifying the first user that the second user has returned to the call.

2. A method for notifying a first user that a second user has returned to a call in accordance with claim 1, wherein the step of monitoring comprises detecting activity on the communication path.

5

3. A method for notifying a first user that a second user has returned to a call in accordance with claim 2, wherein the step of detecting activity on the communication path comprises detecting voice traffic on the communication path.

10

4. A method for notifying a first user that a second user has returned to a call in accordance with claim 2, wherein the step of detecting activity on the communication path comprises detecting a data packet on the communication path.

15

5. A method for notifying a first user that a second user has returned to a call in accordance with claim 1, wherein the step of notifying the first user that the second user has returned to the call comprises sending an audible signal to the first user.

20

6. A method for notifying a first user that a second user has returned to a call in accordance with claim 5, wherein the step of sending an audible signal to the first user comprises sending a signal instructing the first phone to generate an audible noise.

25

7. A method for notifying a first user that a second user has returned to a call in accordance with claim 6, wherein the step of sending a signal instructing the first phone to generate an audible noise comprises sending a ring signal to the first user.

30

35

8. A method for notifying a first user that a second user has returned to a call in accordance with claim 1, wherein the step of notifying the first user that the second user has returned to the call comprises displaying
5 a visual indicator on the first phone.

9. A method for notifying a first user that a second user has returned to a call in accordance with claim 8, wherein the step of sending a visual indicator to the
10 first user comprises sending a signal instructing the first phone to turn on a visual indicator on the first phone.

10. A method for notifying a first user that a second
15 user has returned to a call in accordance with claim 1, wherein the step of notifying the first user that the second user has returned to the call comprises vibrating the first phone.

20 11. A method for notifying a first user that a second user has returned to a call in accordance with claim 1, wherein the step of notifying the first user that the second user has returned to the call comprises sending a paging signal to the first user.

25 12. A method for notifying a first user that a second user has returned to a call in accordance with claim 1, wherein the step of notifying the first user that the second user has returned to the call comprises sending a
30 paging signal to a separate device.

13. A method for notifying a first user that a second user has returned to a call in accordance with claim 1, wherein the step of notifying the first user that the second user has returned to the call comprises notifying
5 the first user comprises notifying the first user on a second communication path that is different that the communication path.

14. A method for notifying a first user that a second
10 user has returned to a call in accordance with claim 1, the method further comprising the step of resuming the call.

15. A method for notifying a first user that a second user has returned to a call, the method comprising:

placing a first user on hold by a second user in a call on a communication path between the first user and
5 the second user;

engaging in a second call by the first user with a third user, thereby placing the second user on hold;

monitoring the communication path to determine when the second user has activity on the communication path;
10 and

notifying the first user that the second user has returned to the call.